- Enhancing application of IT for effective connectivity and technology dissemination
- Moving towards sustainability of extension services
- Convergence of line department programmes and operating Government support through ATMA in gap filling mode
- Providing marketing extension linkages

Promotion of Sports

*22. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of YOUTH, AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee has been set up on Government - Industry co-operation for promotion of sports:

(b) if so, whether various sports federations are also associated with this committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI): (a) to (c) A meeting was held on 7.12.2001 under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister with the representatives of leading Chambers of Commerce and Industry to discuss the areas of cooperation between Government and Industry for promotion of sports in the country. In this meeting, it was decided to meet periodically the representatives of the Industry's Associations under the Chairmanship of Finance Minister to review the progress made in promoting sports with the active participation of the Industry. No Committee as such was set up for this purpose.

Growth target of agricultural sector

*23. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:—

(a) the rate of growth targeted and achieved in agricultural sector during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that this sector performed below the target during the same period;

(c) If so, the details thereof, togetherwith the reasons therefor;

(d) The details of target set for the year 2001-02 and likely achievements thereof; and

(d) The steps taken to improve the performance of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement giving the targets and achievements of production of major crops in 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 is enclosed. It may be seen from the annexure that in most of the cases, the production has been lower than the targets. Achievement of targets in agriculture sector depends on various factors such as investment in agriculture, performance of monsoon, technological developments, timely application of quality inputs, demand for agricultural products etc. In particular, the agricultural production in the country is greatly influenced by the extent and spread of rainfall as about 62% of net area sown is dependent on rains for water. Deficient rainfall also adversely affects the irrigation potential.

(e) In order to improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, credit linked subsidy scheme for augmenting storage/cold storage capacity. Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastem States, Market Information Network and National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourages farmers to increase production through price policy which include implementation of Minimum Support Price and Market Intervention Schemes, procurement by public agencies and by using instruments of trade. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management mode from November, 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complimenting the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all-round development of agriculture.

Statement

Targets and Achievements of Production of Major Crops in 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02

(Million tonnes)

S No.	Crop/Group of	Targets	1998-99		1999-2000			2000-01			2001-02		
			Produc-tion	% Growih in pro-duction over previous year	Targets	Produc-tion	% rowth in pro-duction over previous year	Targets	Produc-tion	% Growth in pro-duction over previous year	Targets	Produc-* tion	% Growth in pro-duction over previous year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Rice	86.00	86.08	4.29	86.00	89.68	4.18	90.00	84.87	-5.36	92.00	91.05	7.28
2.	Wheat	74.00	71.29	7.45	74.00	76.37	7.13	74.00	68.76	-9.96	78.00	73.06	6.25
3.	Coarse Cereals	34.50	31.33	3.06	34.50	30.34	-3.16	33.00	31.62	4.22	33.00	31.91	0.92
4.	Pulses	15.50	14.91	14.96	15.50	13.41	-10.06	15.00	10.67	-20.43	15.00	13.15	23.24
5.	Foodgrains	210.00	203.61	5.90	210.00	209.80	3.04	212.00	195.92	-6.62	218.00	209.17	6.76
6.	Oilseeds	27.00	24.75	16.09	27.00	20.71	-16.32	28.00	18.40	-11.15	28.00	21.06	14.46
7.	Sugarcane	300.00	288.72	3.28	305.00	299.32	3.67	325.00	299.21	-0.04	325.00	294.98	•1.41
8.	Cottone	14.80	12.29	13.27	15.00	11.53	-6.18	14.50	9.65	-16.31	14.50	11.96	23.94
9.	Jute & Mesta @	10.25	9.81	-10.98	11.00	10.55	7.54	10.00	10.48	-0.66	11.00	10.70	2.10

#Million Bales of 170kg. each.

@ Million Bales of 180 kg. each.

* As per advance Estimates released on 22.01.2002.